



Health Programs

Overview of USAID

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) carries out U.S. Government-sponsored assistance programs in more than 100 countries, including Russia. USAID/Russia's goal is to foster Russia's role as a sustainable U.S. partner in addressing critical issues of global importance. Under USAID's current strategy, USAID/Russia will continue building partnerships that help meet Russia's strategic needs, focus its technical and human resources on solving problems of global concern, and address common areas of interest.

Healthcare Portfolio in Russia

USAID's health-related activities support Russia's National Project on Health, serving as a catalyst for change by introducing innovation, encouraging Russian replication of best practices, and coordinating with other donors. The central themes of USAID's health strategy are promoting public health and political leadership; increasing access to safe, acceptable infectious disease prevention, treatment, care and support services; and increasing the number of successful models adapted and replicated in Russia. Over the next years, USAID will continue to work with the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development and regional governments to foster Russia's role as a sustainable partner, addressing in partnership critical health priorities, such as HIV/AIDS, TB and Hepatitis C.



Key Successes

Child Welfare and Orphans: The Assistance to Russian Orphans (ARO) program helped develop a model child welfare program in Tomsk oblast. Under ARO, 60,000 of the most vulnerable children received family and foster care services in Russia.

HIV/AIDS: The governments of St. Petersburg and Orenburg will scale up a model of HIV/AIDS treatment and care piloted with USAID support. The planned expansion would directly benefit approximately 20,000 people living with HIV/AIDS. To support this scale-up, USAID will provide technical assistance to health care authorities and teams of providers in St. Petersburg and Orenburg.

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases: Five USAID regional TB control programs were prepared for treatment of Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB. These territories (Orel, Vladimir, Chuvashia, Khakasiya, and Belgorod) were approved by WHO's Green Light Committee (GLC) and may get now anti-tuberculosis drugs under the GFATM program and provide treatment to MDR TB patients. By now more than 1, 200 patients with this form of TB receive or will receive the required treatment.

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS

USAID/Russia's HIV/AIDS program focuses on prevention and care programs for most-at-risk populations, including vulnerable youth, drug users, commercial sex workers and prisoners. The HIV/AIDS treatment, care, and support initiative promotes multi-sectoral collaboration, both across government agencies and with non-governmental organizations. Working with a range of partners in the target regions of St. Petersburg and Orenburg, the USAID-supported program has helped integrate treatment, care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS in several model sites. These successful models are now beginning to be

expanded in collaboration with the local governments, with the goal of reaching thousands of additional people with treatment and care for those living with HIV/AIDS. USAID/Russia also engages and strengthens the capacity of NGOs working in HIV prevention, care and support; and aims to reduce the transmission of HIV/AIDS, particularly among high-risk groups.

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases

Deadly multi-drug resistant forms of TB found in Russia necessitate sustained cooperation with international and U.S. experts. USAID supports efforts to introduce and expand TB treatment and infection control measures, developing model TB control programs which can then be replicated through Russia in collaboration with governmental and other partners. USAID's activities help refine TB-related national guidelines, and build the capacity of regional TB facilities. USAID also supports Hepatitis C prevention in the Russian Far East.

Support Maternal and Child Health

The USAID-supported Maternal and Child Health Initiative (MCHI) successfully reduced infant and maternal morbidity and mortality in 16 regions across the Russian Federation. In just two years, from 2004 to 2006, MCHI achieved some remarkable results: exclusive breastfeeding up to 6 months increased from 38% to 43%; the proportion of women who had their partner present during labor and delivery increased from 12% to 29%; and abortion rates fell by 12%, dropping from 49 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 to 43.

Assistance to Vulnerable Children

More than one million children in Russia are abandoned, institutionalized or on the streets. USAID improves the quality and quantity of psycho-social services to reduce the number of children in institutional care, including children abandoned because of HIV/AIDS. Sites in Tomsk and Khabarovsk serve as effective models that will be expanded to new regions. Policy work and advocacy will reduce stigma and help social integration.

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